

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 01390 122242Z  
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-14 EA-12 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00  
EB-08 AID-05 OIC-02 /088 W  
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R 122244Z APR 78  
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0647  
INFO USLO PEKING  
AMEMBASSY SOFIA

UNCLAS USUN NEW YORK 01390

E.O. 11652:N/A  
TAGS: EGEN, ECOSOC  
SUBJECT: ECOSOC CONSIDERATION OF REPORT OF CONFERENCE  
ON STANDARDIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES (ITEM 4).

1. ECOSOC CONSIDERED ITEM 4, STANDARDIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES, APRIL 11TH. A DECISION WAS TAKEN TO TAKE NOTE OF THE REPORT OF THE THIRD UN CONFERENCE ON THE STANDARDIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES CONTAINED IN DOCUMENT E/1978/17, TO ACCEPT WITH APPRECIATION THE INVITATION FROM IRAN TO HOST THE NEXT CONFERENCE, AND TO REQUEST THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO TAKE, WHEN APPROPRIATE, PRACTICAL MEASURES FOR IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CONFERENCE.

2. SECRETARIAT REPLACED PARA 6(A) OF E/1978/17 WITH 2 PARAS FROM RESOLUTION 8 WHICH READ: CONSIDERING THE FULL POSSIBILITY OF ADOPTING THE CHINESE PHONETIC ALPHABET (PINYIN) FOR THE ROMANIZATION OF CHINESE GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES INTERNATIONALLY THROUGH A SUITABLE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD, RECOMMENDS THAT THE CHINESE PHONETIC ALPHABET (PINYIN) BE ADOPTED AS THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM FOR THE ROMANIZATION FOR CHINESE GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES.

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3. US DELEGATE MADE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT:  
MR. PRESIDENT, MY DELEGATION WOULD LIKE TO REMIND THE COUNCIL THAT WE WOULD HAVE PREFERRED THAT RESOLUTION 8 ADOPTED AT ATHENS RECOMMEND THAT THE CHINESE PHONETIC ALPHABET PINYIN BE ADOPTED AS THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM FOR THE ROMANIZATION OF THE CHINESE GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES OVER A SPECIFIED TRANSITIONAL PERIOD. IT IS OUR

HOPE THAT THIS TRANSITIONAL PERIOD CAN BE BETTER DEFINED  
AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO FURTHER DISCUSSION ON THIS. WE  
HAVE SIMILAR PROBLEMS WITH THE CONFERENCE'S ADOPTION  
OF A SINGLE ROMANIZATION SYSTEM  
FOR BULGARIAN. THE UNITED STATES WOULD PREFER THAT THE  
ADOPTION OF TRANSLITERATION OR ROMANIZATION SYSTEMS IN  
GENERAL BE A MATTER OF PREFERENCE AND NOT BE IMPOSED BY  
VOTING IN UN CONFERENCE PLENARY SESSIONS. U.K. JOINED  
IN SIMILAR STATEMENT. U.S.S.R. REP REITERATED ITS  
POSITION TAKEN AT THE CONFERENCE. LEONARD

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** COMMITTEE MEETINGS, GEOGRAPHIC TAGS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**TAGS:** EGEN, PORG, ECOSOC  
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**Review Markings:**  
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